

dielectric medium, each conductive region linked by one or more conductive bridges to adjacent conductive regions, the bridges having a width substantially smaller than the width of the conductive regions.

27. The touchpad as claimed in claim 26, wherein the conductive regions have a relatively large thickness and the conductive bridges have a relatively small thickness to increase the resistance in the conductive layer.

28. The touchpad as claimed in claim 2, wherein the supporting medium and conductive medium are formed as a single conductive support and sensing layer.

29. The touchpad as claimed in claim 28, wherein the single conductive support and sensing layer is formed from a bulk doped medium having a bulk conductivity.

30. The touchpad as claimed in claim 29, wherein the bulk doped medium is glass or plastic comprising a dopant of conductive material.

31. The touchpad as claimed in claim 30, wherein the conductive material is particulate or fibrous.

32. The touchpad as claimed in claim 31, wherein the particulates may be formed from metal or metal oxides with a size up to 10 microns wide.

33. The touchpad as claimed in claim 31, wherein the fibrous material may be formed from nanotubes or carbon fibers with a length up to 10 millimeters.

34. The touchpad as claimed in claim 28, wherein the plurality of conductors are substantially contained within the single conductive support and sensing layer.

35. The touchpad as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of conductors are each electrically insulated.

36. The touchpad as claimed in claim 35, wherein each conductor is coated with an electrically insulating sheath.

37. The touchpad as claimed in claim 28, wherein the conductive support and sensing layer has a textured surface in the form of surface distortions for the redirection of a point of touch.

38. The touchpad as claimed in claim 1, wherein the touchpad is arranged into a non-planar configuration.

39. The touchpad as claimed in claim 1, wherein the touchpad is resilient.

40. The touchpad as claimed in claim 1, wherein the touchpad is deformable.

41. The touchpad as claimed in claim 2, wherein the conducting medium is Indium Tin Oxide (ITO) or Antimony Tin Oxide (ATO).

42. A touchpad system including a touchpad as claimed in claim 1 including a sensing circuit comprising a touch detector circuit and wake up circuit, the sensing circuit periodically sleeping and waking to measure the state of the touchpad, wherein in response to a touch, the sensing circuit wakes up, if sleeping, and scans the surface to determine the touch position.

43. The touchpad system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the touch is detected in less than about 3 microseconds.

44. The touchpad system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the power consumption of the sensing circuit is less than about 10 microamps when sleeping.

45. The touchpad as claimed in claim 1 wherein the plurality of conductors comprises a first series of spaced-apart conductors and a second series of spaced apart conductors disposed in intersecting relation.

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